

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/661,805

Examiner

Thuy N. Pardo

Applicant(s)

SWAMINATHAN ET AL.

Art Unit

2168

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed on 10/29/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 2, 4-13, 16, 17, 20-26, 29 and 30, now renumbered 1-23.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 10/29/2007
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


THUY N. PARDO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Thuy N Pardo
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2168

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. Applicant's Amendment filed on October 29, 2007 in response to Examiner's Office Action has been reviewed. Claims 1, 7, 16, 20 and 29 have been amended, claims 3, 14, 15, 27 and 28 have been canceled, and claims 18 and 19 have been withdrawn.
2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. John Rauch, Registration No. 37,218 on December 17, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 18 and 19 have been canceled.

Claim 1,

Line 9, "segments (elements)" has been replaced by --elements--

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1, 2, 4-13, 16, 17, 20-26, 29 and 30 are allowed over the prior art of record.

The prior art of record fails to teach or suggest individually or in combination automatically determining a level of similarity between at least two of a plurality of a plurality of discrete elements stored in the document repository, storing data representative of a link, identifying one or more conceptually meaningful segments (elements) within the document based on the document type and physical structure and automatically updating whenever a discrete element is added to the document repository as set forth in independent claim 1, storing data representative of the relationship between the segments of at least two documents of the plurality of documents into a plurality of conceptually meaningful segments in the document repository, comparing the plurality of segments by extracting a plurality of terms from the segments, and for each segments, determining the frequency of at least one of the plurality of words within the segment as set forth in independent claims 7 and 20.

Dependent claims 2, 4-6, 8-13, 16, 17, 21-26, 29 and 30 being further limiting to the independent claims 1, 7 and 20 are also allowed.

The closet prior art, Lingosari et al. WO 03/069506 A2 teaches data element indicia representative of the plurality of data elements are displayed within a plurality of regions defined according to corresponding data types and the relationships between at least a portion of the data elements may also be displayed. The closest prior art fails to anticipate or render Applicant's limitations above obvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably


accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thuy N. Pardo whose telephone number is 571-272-4082. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim Vo can be reached on 571-272-3642. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Thuy N Pardo
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2168



**THUY N. PARDO
PRIMARY EXAMINER**